

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 PC-10 AGR-20 INT-08

COME-00 SPC-03 NSC-07 FDRE-00 IGA-02 ABF-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 HEW-08 SCI-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SWF-02 EB-11 L-03 H-03

SS-20 DRC-01 /246 W

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P 281450Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3983

AMEMBASSY GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1993

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AFDROUGHT

SUBJECT: U.S. CONTRIBUTION SAHELIAN ZONE TRUST FUND

REF: A. STATE 60072

B. ROME 4237

SUMMARY: STEVENSON REACTION MAKES IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT OSRO WON'T WILLINGLY GIVE UP BOTH SYMBOL AND FINANCIAL CLOUT OF COORDINATING ROLE. SINCE NEHEMIAH GENERALLY FAR MORE SENSITIVE SUCH IMPLICATIONS THAN STEVENSON IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY BOERMA WOULD RECEIVE ANY ADVICE ALONG LINES OF CONCURRING IN PROCEDURE TO MAKE GRANT DIRECT TO UNICEF AND WHO INSTEAD OF TO SAHELIAN ZONE TRUST FUND AS STATED WILLIAMS FEB. 5 LETTER. FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS REQUESTED.

1. WHILE IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEGREGATE FACTS OF OPERATION FROM PERSONAL SENSITIVITIES RESPECT FAO'S ASSIGNED ROLE TO COORDINATE EFFORTS OF UN FAMILY IN SAHEL, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT SUGGESTED SWITCH IN PROCEDURE WOULD BE TAKEN AS A LIMITATION  
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ON FORMER AND AN AFFRONT TO LATTER. SITUATION SEEMS RATHER

OBVIOUS BUT PERHAPS EXAMPLE WILL HELP. STEVENSON CLAIMS OSRO, WHOSE SENSE OF URGENCY SEEMS NOT TO PERVADE SOME OF THE OTHER AGENCIES, HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE WITH WHO IN PARTICULAR TO GET THAT AGENCY TO STEP UP GREATLY ITS PACE OF OPERATIONS IN SAHEL. OSRO'S PROMISE OF FUNDING IS A CONSIDERABLE TOOL. AS INDICATED REF B. AND GENEVA'S 1690 FAO HAS URGED WHO TO GET ON WITH THE JOB OF SUPPLYING MEDICINES IN PLACE AND IN TIME AND HAS COMMITTED FUNDS TO THAT END, BUT OBVIOUSLY MORE NEEDS DOING. FINDING AT FIELD LEVEL INSUFFICIENT ATTENTION TO SUCH MATTERS AS PROPER STORAGE FOR VACCINES, ETC., STEVENSON HAS ARRANGED WITH SWEDES TO PROVIDE REFRIGERATORS. WHO AND UNICEF ASKED TO APRIL 10 MEETING TO CONSIDER FURTHER STEPS WHICH NEED BE TAKEN FOR RAPID IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS.

2. WE CAN ARGUE THAT "FACILITATING FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION" NEED NOT CHANGE SUBSTANTIVE ROLE BUT THAT STRAINS OUR CREDITIBILITY. MORE WILL BE READ INTO SWITCH OF SIGNALS. SIMPLE QUESTION LIKELY TO BE WHETHER US DOES OR DOES NOT SUPPORT FAO IN ITS COORDINATING ROLE. RECOMMEND CAREFUL THOUGHT BE GIVEN BY STATE/AID TO IMPLICATIONS OF CHANGING FROM "GRANT TO TRUST FUND". IF REASONS FOR DOING SO ARE OVERRIDING WE MAY SIMPLY HAVE TO EXPLAIN TO BOERMA THAT THAT'S THE WAY IT IS. PLEASE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT IN FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS WHETHER TO PROCEED.VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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